asked to bring down the price voluntarily failing which, subject to prescribed conditions, action is initiated under paragraph 10(b) of the DPCO, 1995 for fixing the price of the formulation in public interest.

Acquisition of pharma units by multinational companies

†3279. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the disinvestment and accession by multinational companies have increased in the areas of drug research and drug manufacturing in Indian pharma industry;

(b) if so, the reasons for Indian companies selling their shares to multinational companies;

(c) whether foreign patent laws and politics are hurdles in the progress of Indian pharma industry and instrumental in increase in accession of multinational companies in the country; and

(d) the details of planning of Government to check the monopoly of foreign pharma companies in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (d) At present 100% FDI is allowed in the Pharmaceutical sector. Acquisitions, strategic takeovers, mergers etc. are taking place both ways - by Indian companies overseas and by foreign companies in India to broaden their scope of functioning across the globe. Sector specific policy interventions may be required through a study to conform to the broad policy objectives of the Govt. of India on FDI flows.

Land of closed units

3280. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of quantity of land along with character of usage of Land possessed by closed units of HFCL, FCIL, and PPCL for factory and township purposes separately and the valuation of the same based on present market rate, unit-wise;

(b) the reasons for the land in possession of those closed units being allowed to remain idle since last seven or eight years and not being returned to respective State Governments which had given the land on lease; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to rehabilitate the units and requisite permission has been obtained from respective State Government with details thereof, unit- wise?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) The detail of quantity of land along with character of usage of Land possessed by closed units of HFCL and FC1L is as under:

HFCL:

Figures: land/acres

Land Area	Durgapur	Barauni	Haldia
Factory	539.42	405.89	167.67
Township & others	245.21	279.54	86.17
TOTAL	784.63	685.43	253.84

FCIL:

Land in Acres

Unit	Factory	Township	Miscellaneous: Like link road, ash ponds, railway line & siding, water pipelines, vacant, etc.
Sindri	922	2533	2720
Gorakhpur	300	693	-
Ramagundam	919	365	-
Talcher	569	283	52

The preliminary valuation of land has been done by M/s PDIL. According to the PDIL, the estimated valuation of land is Rs. 192.99 crore for Durgapur Unit of HFCL and Rs.367.70 crore for Gorakhpur Unit, Rs.120.45 crore for Ramagundam Unit and Rs. 143.21 crore for Talcher Unit of FCIL. As the Companies are sick and before the Hon'ble Delhi High Court/ BIFR, the matter of revival is being considered by the Hon'ble Court/BIFR. Therefore, the valuation, the subject matter of the Question is subject to the outcome of the proceedings.

PPCL:-

PPCL is under liquidation and official liquidator has been appointed after the order of the Hon'ble Patna High Court.

(b) and (c) The Government has decided to explore the feasibility of revival of the closed Public Sector Fertilizer units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL) and Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) subject to assured availability of natural gas. As a result, the land was not returned to the respective State Governments. The Government of India has already initiated steps for the revival of the above companies and accordingly taken up the matter with the respective State Governments seeking their support and there has been positive response from the State Governments for the revival of these closed fertilizer units.